| Method of Transfer | Description | Installation Time | Equipment Needed | Contract Period | Speed | Pros | Cons |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| T1 (point-to-minipoint) | Connection between a facility and a local Internet provider. The monthly cost is $300-$500. | | | | 1.5 Mbs | Secure with software that supports SSL. Fast. | |
| Internet2 | The second generation of the Internet, developed by a consortium of >200 universities, private companies & U.S. government. Not developed for commercial use or to replace the Internet, but is the reincarnation of it, currently intended primarily for research. Whereas the Internet was first designed to exchange text, Internet2 is designed for full-motion video and 3-D animations. | | | | 600 Mbs | Secure. | Not widely available. Organizations may require major upgrades to their networks to connect to Internet2. Hops may be Internet rather than I2; this reduces the overall transmission speed to Internet speeds. |